



Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Forest, Mineral and Fire Management

2005 FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION INFORMATION

This information is provided by the authority of Part 401 of Act 452 of PA 1994, as amended.

Co-sponsored By:

USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Program

NOVEMBER 2005

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Forest, Mineral and Fire Management, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service has established a Forest Stewardship Grants Program. Funding is federal money from the USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Program, Forest Stewardship Program.

Based upon federal funding levels for FY 2005, grant funds will be available to Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) certified plan writers on a competitive basis for management plan preparation projects. This is a 50% - 50% cost share match program. The applicant's matching funds must come from non-industrial private forest (NIPF) landowners, and cannot come from other Federal funds. Grant must be completed by **September 30, 2005**. Grant extensions will not be awarded.

The maximum amount of cost-share paid for each management plan is as follows:

- 12-75 acres, maximum cost share = \$200
- 76 acres and above, maximum cost share = \$125 + \$1.25/acre (not to exceed \$2,000).

Forest stewardship is the application of proper economic and ecological principles to the management of NIPF lands. The program's purpose is to enable individual landowners to achieve personal land ownership goals and objectives while maintaining forest ecosystems, biological resources and the supply of forest products for future owners and society as a whole.

This is a reimbursement grant program: federal monies awarded under this program will be paid only upon evidence of completion of granted management plans and documentation showing the landowner match (minimum of 50%).

For additional information, contact:

FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM
FOREST, MINERAL AND FIRE MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30452
LANSING MI 48909-7952
(517) 373-1275

BUDGET INFORMATION:

Applications must include the grant amount requested (no more than 50% of the total project costs), and the amount of matching funds (minimum of 50% of the total project cost). The matching funds must be paid for by the participating landowner.

RATING CRITERIA:

Submit the original application. Applications will be accepted from FSP certified plan writers. Certified plan writers are natural resource professionals who have:

- ♦ Attended a FSP Plan Writer Certification Workshop;
- ♦ Submitted a Memorandum of Understanding between the plan writer and the MDNR Forest, Mineral and Fire Management;
- ♦ Have obtained a minimum of six (6) hours of continuing education training during fiscal year 2004; (October 1, 2003 - September 30, 2004), and submitted the "Certification for Continuing Education Training for Certified Plan Writers" form;
- ♦ Must be on the MDNR Forest, Mineral and Fire Management - FSP Certified Plan Writer List.

Applications must include an amount of money requested. Awards will be made based upon past grant performance, fulfilling specific criteria, funding availability and the number of applicants. If the applicant has not had a grant before, he/she will be considered equally with the other applicants.

Prior to August 1, 2005, increases to initial grant amounts may be awarded. This will be based upon grant performance and funding availability. Such requests **must be** made in writing to the FSP Coordinator.

In addition, several items will be evaluated in the grant awards. These are evaluations for program administration on a statewide basis, which may include geographic location. MDNR reserves the right to refine or alter the criteria at any time.

GRANT AWARD AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACT:

Grants cannot be awarded until the federal government confirms funding levels for the Forest Stewardship Program. Grants will be awarded to applicants until grant funding no longer exists, and as determined by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, based on application comparisons and other considerations. Each applicant will be notified of his or her status (award and allocation, or no award).

Grant Applications meriting funding consideration, but not at the requested amounts, may be offered reduced awards. Grant recipients will receive grant documents for processing following the initial notification. Grant payments cannot be made until the awarded recipient and the MDNR Forest Stewardship Coordinator sign grant agreements.

Grant monies awarded will be paid ONLY upon evidence of completion of FSP management plans. Management plans must be submitted to the MDNR Service Forester for review and approval by September 15, 2005. Grant must be completed by September 30, 2005.

In order for payment to be made, the following must be submitted to the MDNR Service Forester for review and approval:

- ◆ The FSP Land Eligibility Application and Invoice Form (PR 4065-3)
- ◆ The prepared management plan
- ◆ Documentation showing the landowner paid at least 50% of the cost of the plan.

Recipients must comply with all applicable state and federal regulations and requirements.

Projects receiving funds must acknowledge the support of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Forest Stewardship Program, and the USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Program.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Forest, Mineral and Fire Management reserves the right to withhold award of available grant monies.

MDNR NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Equal Rights for Natural Resource Users

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both State and Federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended (MI PA 453 and MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write:

HUMAN RESOURCES
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30028
LANSING MI 48909-7528

Or → MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS
CADILLAC PLACE
3054 W. GRAND RIVER BLVD., SUITE 3-600
DETROIT, MI 48202

Or → OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS
US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
4040 NORTH FAIRFAX DRIVE
ARLINGTON VA 22203

For information or assistance on this publication, contact the MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, FOREST, MINERAL and FIRE MANAGEMENT, PO BOX 30452, LANSING MI 48909-7952 OR Telephone (517) 373-1275. This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.